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TO: Examiner Marianne L. Padgett PAGES: 4 including cover

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attachment to interview held May 16, 2011  
& entered in scanned file May 17, 2011

Attorney Docket No.: 0553-0408

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Shinji MAEKAWA et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/827,457 )  
Filed: April 19, 2004 )  
For: Method For Forming Pattern And )  
Drop Discharge Apparatus )  
Examiner: Marianne L. Padgett )  
Art Unit: 1715 )  
Confirmation No.: 2984 )

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT L**

Applicants have the following response to the Office Action of February 16, 2011.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A pattern forming method comprising steps of:

forming a thin film on a surface;

positioning the surface and [[,]] a first nozzle and a second nozzle, the first and the second nozzles being integrated, so that the first nozzle is and the second nozzle are in a region located above a selected portion of the thin film;

irradiating the selected portion of the liquid repellent thin film with [[a]] plasma [[of a]] gas irradiated originating from the first nozzle to selectively provide affinity for [[the]] a liquid composition to the selected portion, after the step of positioning the integrated first nozzle and the integrated second nozzle; and

applying [[a]] the liquid composition to the selected portion by discharging a drop from [[the]] a second nozzle by drop discharging method, after having irradiated the selected portion with [[the]] plasma gas,

forming a pattern by repeating said steps of positioning, irradiating, and applying,

etching the thin film by plasma etching using plasma gas irradiated sprayed by an array of nozzles over an area including the selected portion of the thin film and the pattern, and using the pattern as mask;

wherein a larger quantity of plasma gas is irradiated sprayed over regions where the thin film is exposed than over the pattern varies according to the pattern.

The undersigned wishes to discuss this claim and the 112 rejection with the Examiner.

Date:

Respectfully submitted,

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